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Witness Says Defendant Knew Of Double-Agent Operations

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Former Army counterintelligence specialist Richard Craig Smith, accused of divulging six double-agent operations to the Soviets, was familiar with 21 such operations, his ex-supervisor testified yesterday in federal court in Alexandria.

Lt. Col. Noel E. Jones, deputy director for counterintelligence at the Army's Intelligence and Security Command, said Smith was the case officer or alternate case officer for those operations while he worked in military counterintelligence from 1973 to 1980.

The government yesterday rested its case against Smith, who is charged with conspiracy, transmitting the identities of six double agents to the Soviets and disclosing classified information, all charges he denies. He faces a life sentence if convicted.

Smith is accused of disclosing the double-agent operations to a Soviet KGB officer while on business trips to Tokyo in 1982 and 1983, according to his indictment. But FBI agents have testified that Smith

told them he made an unsuccessful attempt to contact Soviet officials in San Francisco during the summer of 1981.

FBI agents Michael J. Waguespack and James Murphy said Smith sent a letter with his Army badge and credentials to the Soviet consulate by messenger offering information. But the Soviets never responded as the agents said Smith had instructed them: by placing a personal ad in a certain newspaper.

Federal prosecutors also presented testimony that Smith was deeply in debt just before he met the Soviet official in Tokyo. But his father, Hyrum Max Smith, and his brother, C. Todd Smith, testified that they were lending money to Smith and that he was not under pressure to repay them.

The defense is expected to call two witnesses today who had ties with the CIA in an attempt to corroborate Smith's claim that he was working for the CIA when he contacted the Soviet official in Tokyo.

Those witnesses are former CIA employe Charles Richardson, also known as Richard P. Cavannaugh, and Ronald R. Rewald, director of a defunct Hawaiian investment firm that was used by the CIA as a front.